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Deputy Collectors (as on 15th January 1955)—One hundred and thirty-six.''

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" In the matter of promotion to the cadre of District Collectors from the cadre of Deputy Collectors, a panel is being maintained by Government and is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that due justice is not shown to the people in the panel and some of the Scheduled Caste and Backward class members are being overlooked to the detriment of their interests? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" There is no question of overlooking. The cases are scrutinized on merits and there is provision also for showing some preference to Scheduled Castes and Backward classes."

Government lorries used for Avadi Congress

* 1821 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state the number of Government lorries used for the recent Avadi Congress Session?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Eighty-two lorries belonging to Government were used in connection with the All-India Congress Session held at Avadi. Of these, 73 lorries were used for bandobust duties. Five lorries on works of formation of roads, one lorry for conveyance of pipes for water-supply and three lorries were hired to a private artist to carry portraits. Hire charges wherever leviable have been levied. ''

Construction of a vent in the Veerasholan river

* 1822 Q.—SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the villagers of Manganallur, Mayuram taluk, Tanjore district, have made any representation to the District Collector and Executive Engineer, Tanjore, requesting the Government to construct a vent in the Veerasholan river for irrigation;

(b) whether any investigation was made and any estimate prepared;

(c) whether the villagers offered to contribute a portion of the cost of construction; and

(d) if so, at what stage the proposal now stands?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) If the reference is to the petition for the construction of a permanent sluice in the place of a temporary pipe on the right bank of the Veerasholan river, the answer is in the affimative.

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" (b) Yes.

" (c) No.

" (d) The work was completed in 1954."

Bhoodan Movement

* 1823 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state with reference to answer dated 17th May 1954 to question No. 875 when the Government propose to undertake legislation to fecilitate land gifts under Bhoodan Movement?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The draft Madras Bhoodan Yagna Bill, 1955, is under consideration of the Government."

Survey of lands reserved for Harijans in Panathody, Kasaragod taluk

* 1824 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the survey of the lands reserved for Harijans in Panathody village in Kasaragod taluk, South Kanara has been completed;

(b) if not why;

(c) how many families have so far been settled there; and

(d) what action the Government have taken against those who have made encroachments on the land?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (a) No. Sir.

" (b) The extent to be surveyed measures about 750 acres. The Survey special staff of one Deputy Surveyor and three chainmen employed for the survey work, commenced the work on 13th September 1953. The nature of the work is such that rapid progress could not be shown. The onset of the monsoon at the beginning of June 1954 and certain administrative difficulties in keeping a Deputy Surveyor continuously on the job also contributed to the delay in the completion of the work.

" (c) 21 families.

" (d) Necessary action to evict the encroachers is being taken in respect of the ecroachments detected in the reserved lands."